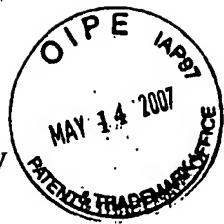


Docket No.: 249142US0DIV



\*RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 11652.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

Mikio TAKAIWA, et al. : EXAMINER : RAO, M.

SERIAL NO: 10/784,870 :

FILED: FEBRUARY 24, 2004 : ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: ALKALINE PROTEASE

O.K. to ENTER.  
Please ENTER  
~~MRD~~  
~~5/13/07~~

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated February 12, 2007, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Support for the Amendment** appears on page 4 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this response.